



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is time for another newsletter article.

December brings about cooler weather, a new church year, and Advent. If you notice, we start Advent a little bit later this year than other years. Have you ever wondered why we start Advent when we do? Usually, it is the first Sunday after Thanksgiving.

The start of Advent is tied into another festival we don't usually celebrate or notice.

The start of Advent is tied to the Feast of St. Andrew's. St. Andrew was a disciple/apostle of Jesus in the New Testament. He is introduced as Simon Peter's brother. He is said to have been martyred Patras in western Greece like many of the other disciples. He is the Patron saint of Scotland and St. Andrews day which is November 30th is a holiday there.

This year St. Andrews day does not fall until a week after Thanksgiving which means the first Sunday after St. Andrew's Day is the beginning of Advent, December 3.

As we begin Advent, we do begin another church year. This year we will be concentrating on the Gospel of Mark. However, you will notice a lot of Gospel lessons will come from Matthew, Luke and John as Mark is the shortest of all the Gospels.

Traditionally we bring out the Advent wreath and during the Sundays of Advent we light one of the candles on the Advent wreath. Here in America, we use blue (or purple) for the candles with one pink one. In Germany the traditional color of the candles is red. Each of the candles is supposed to stand for the four different themes of the Sundays are hope, peace, joy, and love.

The word Advent comes from the Latin *adventus* meaning coming, arrival. You will notice a lot of words we use in the church come from Latin as that was the language of the church for many years. We light the candles to light the way of Jesus as we prepare for his coming. December 21st is the first day of winter, also called the winter solstice, winter solstice marks the shortest day of the year (daylight) but also the moment when days start getting longer again until we reach the first day of spring when they are equal daylight and night (thus the name spring equinox.) As the light of the day grows dim (shorter) the lights of the candle grow brighter. Reminding us that Jesus is coming once again to bring the light of the world to us

Yes a lot of what we do is symbolic in nature to remind us of Jesus in our church, in our lives and in our world.

The beginning theme of Advent does have an eschatological theme to it, but different than the end of the church year. As we prepare for the celebration of Christmas, we also remember we are preparing for his coming once again to bring us home to heaven. Just like the end of the church year, this is a doctrine of comfort not fear. We anticipate with hope the coming of Christ to bring us with him to heaven. Not a fear of what might happen.

As we celebrate Advent this year, we look with anticipation to the coming of the Christ child, the babe of Bethlehem as he comes once more in our celebrations. We pray that he might be a light of Salvation and beacon of hope to all in the world.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Marshall

OTHER NEWS



Birthdays for the month of December

- 10 Joyce Anne Green
- 12 Betty Rice
- 13 Dorothy Herrod
- 14 Jeremy McKenzie
- 18 Megan Raddle
- 20 Adam Shorts
- 21 Andrew Raddle
- 31 Carole Michael

If we forgot you, we apologize, it means we most likely don't have it. Please see that the office receives it. Thanks



Baptismal Anniversaries for the month of December

- Rachel Clinton
- Isla Burrus
- Bran Burrus
- Betty Carter "Johnson
- Jeremy McKenzie



Sunday Average Attendance for November— 28

Sunday Average Attendance online for November— 4

Views — 10

Part of November Offerings — \$14589.07



We are in the process of making a new photo directory. Pastor has everything set up in the fellowship hall but we want you to be in it.

Please make arrangements with the church office to have your photo taken for our new directory. If you cannot make

it on a Sunday just make arrangements to come during the week to have your photo taken. We want this to be the best one yet.

WE'RE SELLING RADA CUTLERY
SHOP NOW TO SUPPORT OUR GROUP



Be prepared for upcoming weddings, graduations, and other occasions when you support our group **Trinity Lutheran Church**, through this Rada Cutlery fundraiser!

Click this link <https://radafundraising.com?rfsn=5544767.dbcf947> to start shopping.

Thank you!

There are books on the table in the Narthex, if you prefer to order through the catalog I will accept those orders and submit them. Donna

Poinsettia
ORDERS

We are taking Poinsettia orders to beautify our sanctuary for Christmas. The cost is \$15.00 ea. and the orders along with payment must be received no later than Sunday, Dec. 17th

LWML NEWS

MARY GUILD

The November meeting of Mary Guild began with a devotion presented by Julie Shorts. The "All-Knowing God" made us. We are His and He knows all about us. He knows our needs, our afflictions, our fears and He knows our joys. He is with us at all times, therefore we are never alone. He saw our need and He sent His Son to rescue us from sin.

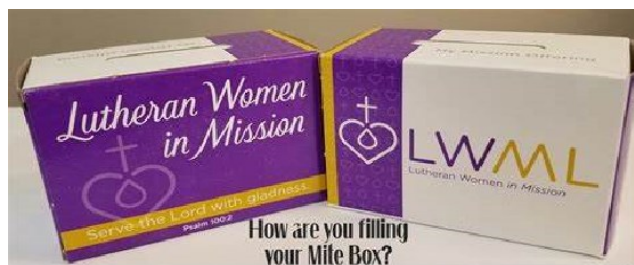
Arleen Parsley called the roll and read the October minutes. During the business portion of our meeting we had election of officers. Thankfully, officers will serve in their 2023 positions. Final plans were made for the Christmas party which takes place on December 7, 2023 at noon. All ladies of the church and any guests they wish to bring are invited to attend. Three members, Millie Kroll, Pastor Marshall and Kaye Meins will celebrate November birthdays.

Julie Shorts was the hostess. Pat Baughman taught us how to make small booklets containing Bible verses that we can give to people in the time of illness, and so on.

The meeting closed with the League Pledge.

In December Cherrie Bradley will give the devotion, all members will be hostesses and our mission projects are gifts for our senior members, toys for children and gifts for mothers at CASA. We should also bring a prizes for the games we play at the party.

Submitted by
Kaye Meins



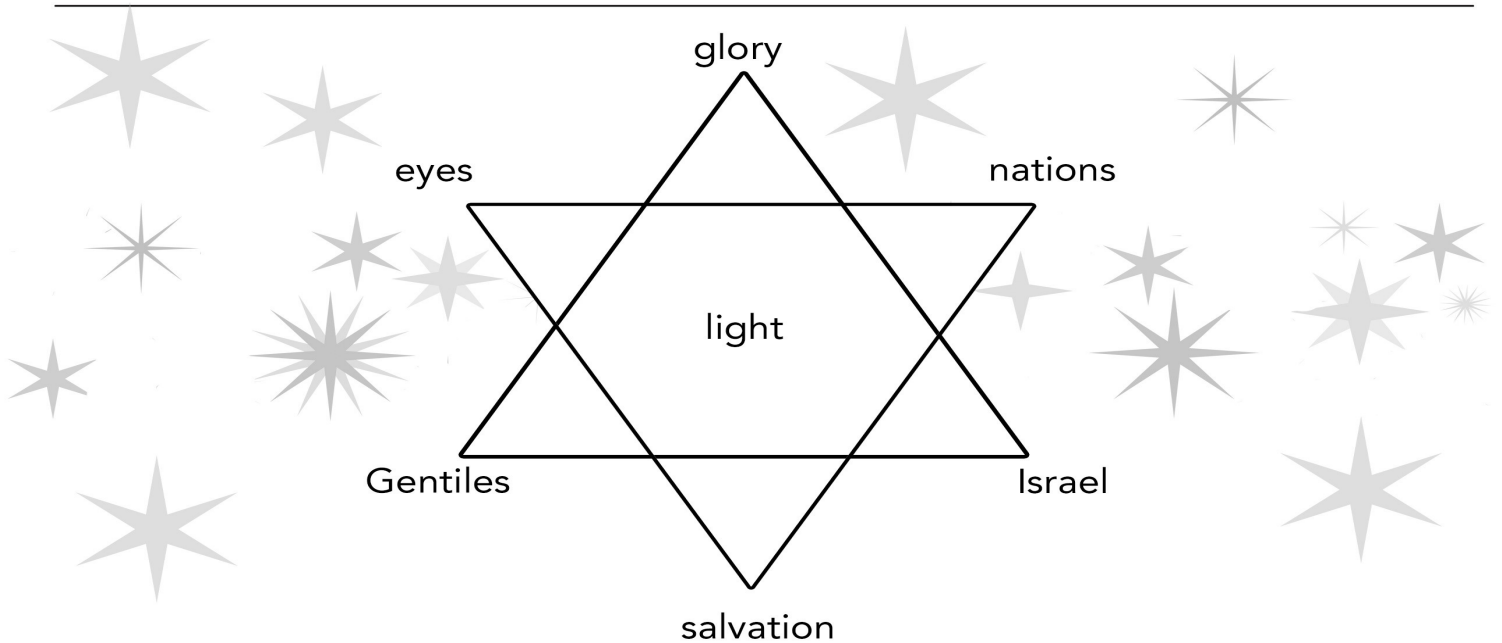
PUZZLE



SIMEON'S SIGHT

When Joseph and Mary brought baby Jesus to the temple,
they heard a special prophecy from Simeon.

*Directions: Using the star key, write the words in
the correct spaces to complete Luke 2:30-32, NIV.*



"For my _____ have seen your _____, which you have prepared
in the sight of all _____: a _____ for revelation to the
_____, and the _____ of your people _____."

Luke 2:30-32, NIV



There's no place like
home for the holidays.
YOU HAVE A HOME IN OUR CHURCH!

December 2023

	Elder	Ushers	Lector	Acolyte	Greeters	Flowers by...	Counters
SUN 3	Phillip Dunger Bill Witt	Jimmy Herrod Harold Jacobs	Cherrie Bradley			Lura Campbell "In Memory of Bobbie Cunningham, Dewey's Birthday	Judy Clinton Julie Shorts Sharon Calabretta
SUN 10	Steve Lochmann Phillip Dunger	Jimmy Herrod John Alexander	Steve Lochmann			Gayle Montague	Phillip & Amanda Dunger
SUN 17	Waymond Meins Steve Lochmann	Robert Floyd Steve Shorts	Robert Floyd			Pete Smykla "In memory of Sylvia"	Tricia Jacobs Cherrie Bradley Lynne Russell
SUN 24	Phillip Dunger Waymond Meins	Jimmy Herrod Steve Lochmann	Erin Foster			Christmas Poinsettia's"	Joyce Anne Green Charleen Weathers
SUN 31	Steve Shorts Phillip Dunger	Bill Witt Jimmy Herrod	Steve Shorts			Judy & Rachel Clinton "In loving memory of Ray"	Judy Clinton Julie Shorts Sharon Calabretta

Trinity Lutheran Church Worship Service Attendants

Altar Care: Kaye Meins & Phyllis Dunger



December 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 3 9:30 Sunday School/Adult Bible Class 10:45 Worship w/comm. 12:00 Elder's Meeting 5:00 Worship in Crossett 1st Sunday in Advent		 5		 7 10:00 Thursday morning Bible Study 12:00 Mary Guild Christmas Party	1	2
10 9:30 Sunday School/Adult Bible Class 10:45 Worship w/comm. 2nd Sunday in Advent	11	12 8:30 Pastor's Winkel at Zion in Avilla	13 6:30 Mid-week Advent Newsletter Deadline	14 10:00 Thursday morning Bible Study	15	16
17 9:30 Sunday School/Adult Bible Class 10:45 Worship w/comm. 12:00 Voters Meeting 5:00 Worship in Crossett 3rd Sunday in Advent	18	19 9:30 P.B.Q.G.	20 10:00 Newsletter Committee 6:30 Mid-week Advent	21 Start of Winter (Winter Solstice) 10:00 Thursday morning Bible Study (TBA)	22	23
24 9:30 NO Sunday School/Adult Bible Class 10:45 Worship w/comm 6:30 Christmas Eve Worship Christmas Eve	25 Christmas 10:00 Christmas Day Worship	26	27	28 No Bible Study	29	30
31 9:30 NO Sunday School/Adult Bible Class 10:45 Worship w/comm 1st Sunday after Christmas						

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Return Service Requested

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City State 95555

Trinity Lutheran Church

Pine Bluff, Arkansas



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